

**Statement from the DC Public Charter School Board
Before the DC State Board of Education
Meeting on
Graduation Requirements
May 18, 2011**

The DC Public Charter School Board submits the following written statement for the record:

DC Public Charter Schools are required to have their graduating seniors complete the graduating requirements of 24 Carnegie Units, which the state requires. The DC Public Charter School Board does not mandate that students complete either the 11th and 12th grade thesis or the culminating project, as high school graduation requirements. Many of the schools have mission-specific requirements such as senior projects and portfolios. Therefore, the ruling outlined in Section 2203, as amended, will not affect any of the graduation requirements of LEAs in DC public charter high schools.

The Public Charter School Board (PCSB) will participate in all future conversations related to any long-term change proposals to the graduation and academic requirements delineated in Chapter 2; Section 2203 of DCMR, as they arise.

As part of the Board's oversight of the 52 charter schools in the District, it closely monitors and reviews all transcripts of graduating seniors to ensure that students have the correct requirements for graduation. PCSB members sign and certify diplomas of every senior graduating from a DC public charter school. The PCSB will continue to be diligent about ensuring that DC charter school students graduate with all the requirements established by the state.